

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Call to Order: Chair Jeff Essmann, on April 21, 2017 at 8:00 AM, in Room 152 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Jeff Essmann, Chair (R)
Rep. Kelly Flynn, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Tom Jacobson, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Kim Abbott (D)
Rep. Becky Beard (R)
Rep. Zach Brown (D)
Rep. Mary Ann Dunwell (D)
Rep. Dave Fern (D)
Rep. Wylie Galt (R)
Rep. Jim Hamilton (D)
Rep. James O'Hara (R)
Rep. Alan Redfield (R)
Rep. Bridget Smith (D)
Rep. Tom Welch (R)
Rep. Kerry White (R)

Members Excused:

Rep. Ron Ehli (R)
Rep. Adam Hertz (R)
Rep. Greg Hertz (R)
Rep. George G. Kipp III (D)
Rep. Steve Lavin (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Margot Miltenberger, Committee Secretary
Megan Moore, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HJ 43, 4/19/2017
Executive Action on: HJ 43; SJ 23

HEARING ON HJ 43**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:01:11 Rep. Kerry White (R), HD 64, opened the hearing on HJ 43, Interim study on replacing property tax with sales tax.

Proponents:

00:02:27 Bob Story, Montana Taxpayers Association (Montax)

00:04:21 Bridger Mahlum, Montana Chamber of Commerce (MCC)

Opponents:

00:05:44 Heather O'Loughlin, Montana Budget and Policy Center (MBPC)

[EXHIBIT\(tah82a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(tah82a02\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(tah82a03\)](#)

Informational Witnesses: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:09:06 Rep. Hamilton

00:09:37 Heather O'Loughlin, MBPC

00:10:32 Rep. Dunwell

00:11:14 Rep. White

00:13:26 Rep. Dunwell

00:14:11 Heather O'Loughlin, MBPC

00:14:42 Rep. Fern

00:15:34 Rep. White

00:16:38 Rep. Welch

00:18:03 Heather O'Loughlin, MBPC

00:20:02 Chair Essmann

00:20:27 Heather O'Loughlin, MBPC

00:20:34 Rep. Galt left the meeting

Closing by Sponsor:

00:21:20 Rep. White

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJ 43

00:23:23 **Motion:** Rep. Flynn moved that **HJ 43 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

00:23:39 Rep. White

00:23:50 **Vote:** Motion carried 13-7 by roll call vote with Rep. Abbott, Rep. Z. Brown, Rep. Dunwell, Rep. Essmann, Rep. Hamilton, Rep. Jacobson and Rep. Kipp voting no. Rep. Ehli, Rep. Galt, Rep. A. Hertz, Rep. G. Hertz, Rep. Kipp and Rep. Lavin voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SJ 23

00:25:24 **Motion:** Rep. Flynn moved that **SJ 23 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

00:25:30 Rep. Flynn

00:26:06 **Vote:** Motion carried 12-8 by roll call vote with Rep. Abbott, Rep. Z. Brown, Rep. Dunwell, Rep. Essmann, Rep. Hamilton, Rep. Jacobson, Rep. Kipp and Rep. B. Smith voting no. Rep. Ehli, Rep. Galt, Rep. A. Hertz, Rep. G. Hertz, Rep. Kipp and Rep. Lavin voted by proxy. Rep. Hertz will carry the bill.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 00:28:45

Margot Miltenberger, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([tah82aad.pdf](#))